



LEWES BOROUGH COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDED - 31st DECEMBER, 1966.

LEWES BOROUGH COUNCIL

HEALTH COMMITTEE

CONSTITUTION AT 31st, DECEMBER, 1966

Chairman:	Alderman A. C. Barber
Vice-Chairman:	Councillor J. G. Hoile
The Worshipful The Mayor:	Alderman H. A. Baker J.P.

Councillor M. S. Breese
Councillor G. R. Burfield
Councillor B. A. N. Damen
Councillor K. C. Day
Councillor W. F. Fuller
Councillor J. R. Kellam
Councillor A. Lansley
Councillor I. C. A. Palmer
Councillor H. D. Shepherd
Councillor Miss B. Temple

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health


J. L. Cotton, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. from
November 1960
The Grange, Southover, Lewes
Telephone No:- Lewes 4282

Public Health Inspectors

W. I. Price, M.A.P.H.I.	(from 2nd April, 1941)
A. J. Hughes, M.A.P.H.I.	(from 5th November, 1965)

Office Staff

A. J. Sheppard	(from 20th January, 1947)
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To the Mayor, the Chairman of the Health Committee, the Aldermen and Members of the Lewes Borough Council.

Mr. Mayor, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the state of public health and on the sanitary circumstances of Lewes Borough for 1966.

The vital statistics of the area compare very favourably with those for England and Wales apart from the infantile mortality rate which is commented upon in the report.

173 cases of infectious disease were notified during the year of which 166 were cases of measles (89 in 1965). Of the remaining seven cases, none call for any special comment. Trials of the measles vaccine are continuing in various areas of the country. Many questions about its use still remain unanswered but vaccination against measles can give a very good degree of protection. It remains to be seen if measles vaccination will be added to the routine schedule of vaccination and immunisation recommended for children. I still believe that there is no justification for retaining measles on the list of notifiable disease except on a local basis where measles vaccine is on trial. In addition 2 new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year and 5 inward transfers of previously reported cases were also notified.

There is some progress to report about Brucellosis. The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food announced in July the Government's intention to introduce a scheme for the eradication of Brucellosis. The first step is to build up a voluntary register of brucella-free herds to provide a reservoir of disease-free replacements. This stage will start as soon as practicable. A serological survey in 1964 showed that then about 14 per cent of adult female cattle would react to the diagnostic tests available. Many of these will react because of vaccination by Strain 19 and not because of infection. It is quite impracticable to slaughter such a large proportion of the female cattle in this country. The cattle that react because of vaccination are no risk to health and are capable of giving profitable service for the rest of their lives. It is essential for time to be given to allow most of these animals to live out the rest of their working lives, and this is the reason for the gradual approach to the problem of eradication. After a sufficient number of herds have been entered on to the voluntary register and time has elapsed from animals reacting to the tests because of vaccination to be culled in the normal process of husbandry, consideration will be given to compulsory eradication area by area. Quite obviously it is going to be many years before Brucellosis is eradicated from the cattle of this country. I would have thought that compulsory pasteurisation of all milk sold would provide a considerable safeguard to the human population during this transitional period.

Housing still continues to be the main problem of environmental health in the town. Some 90 new dwellings were provided during the year of which 18 were built by the Local Authority and 72 by private enterprise. In December, 1966 a further 120 flats and houses were under construction by the Local Authority and a further 22 by private enterprise. It is very pleasing to be able to report this substantial building programme which gives hope that the elimination of unfit property can be speeded up. Thirteen unfit houses were dealt with by closing order procedure and a further 24 houses lacking modern amenities were brought up to acceptable standards by the use of improvement grants.

In conclusion, I should like to express my appreciation to the Members of the Council for the help and support I have received from them during the year. My thanks are also due to Mr. Price and his staff for their valuable assistance, and to the other officials of the Council for their courtesy and co-operation.

I am Mr. Mayor, Mr. Chairman, Ladies
and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. L. COTTON,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION I

STATISTICS FOR THE AREA

(a) GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres)	1,988
Population (Registrar General's estimate for mid year 1966)	14,070
Population (1931 Census)	10,993
Population (1951 Census)	13,106
Population (1961 Census)	13,637
Net increase of population during year	50
Number of occupied houses 1951	3,915
Number of occupied houses 1961	4,386
Number of occupied houses 1966	4,757
Rateable Value (1st April, 1966)	£777,394
Product of a penny rate	£3,100

(b) VITAL STATISTICS

1. Birth & Birth Rates

	LEWES BOROUGH	ENGLAND & WALES
Live Births	187	
Live birth rate per 1,000 population (crude)	13.3	17.7
Corrected birth rate	15.2	
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	7.5	
Still births	2	
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	10.6	15.4
Total live and still births	189	
Live births		
Legitimate	90	83
Illegitimate	7	7
	97	90
	187	

2. Deaths & Death Rates

Deaths	181	
Death rate per 1,000 population (crude)	12.9	11.7
Corrected death rate	11.9	
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year)		
Legitimate	5	1
Illegitimate	1	1
	6	2
	8	
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	42.8	19.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	34.7	
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	142.8	
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	26.7	12.9

Deaths & Death Rates Cont.,

<u>LEWES</u> <u>BOROUGH</u>	<u>ENGLAND</u> <u>& WALES</u>
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Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	26.7	11.1
Peri-natal mortality rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	37.0	26.3
Maternal mortality (including abortion)	Nil	223
Number of deaths	-	0.26
Rate per 1,000 live and still births		

* In order to compare death rates and birth rates in different parts of the country, the Registrar General supplies comparability factors for every district, so as to adjust for irregularities regarding age and sex in the local population. Applying a comparability factor of 1.14 to the crude birth rate of 13.3 the adjusted rate becomes 15.2. Similarly a comparability factor of 0.93 applied to the crude death rate of 12.9 makes the adjusted rate 11.9. This is above the rate for England and Wales at 11.7.

POPULATION

The population of Lewes for the last ten years is given below:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Births</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Birth</u> <u>Rate</u>	<u>Adjusted</u> <u>Birth</u> <u>Rate</u>	<u>Death</u> <u>Rate</u>	<u>Adjusted</u> <u>Death</u> <u>Rate</u>
1957	13,290	172	143	12.9		10.8	
1958	13,510	195	179	14.4		13.2	
1959	13,620	173	142	12.7		10.4	
1960	13,740	182	112	13.2	14.4	11.9	10.9
1961	13,690	206	149	15.1	16.5	10.9	9.9
1962	13,810	192	166	13.9	15.2	12.0	10.8
1963	13,870	200	191	14.4	16.4	13.8	12.7
1964	13,890	214	170	15.4	17.6	13.7	12.6
1965	14,020	210	179	15.0	17.1	12.8	11.7
1966	14,070	187	181	13.3	15.2	12.9	11.9

The population figure has shown an increase of 50 from the figure 14,020 for 1965.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

No cases of maternal mortality occurred in Lewes during 1966. The last previous maternal death of a Lewes resident occurred during 1965.

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Eight infant deaths occurred during 1966 giving an infantile mortality rate of 42.8 per 1,000 live births. There were no infant deaths during 1965. In small populations, too much importance should not be attached to these figures since a difference of one death makes a very large variation in the rate per 1,000. There were no significant features about the causes of death in the eight deaths recorded.

BIRTH RATE

The crude birth rate for the year under review was 13.3 per 1,000 population. The figure is lower than the rate for 1965, but does not call for any comment. Applying the area comparability factor of 1.14 the adjusted birth rate becomes 15.2, which is lower than the rate for England and Wales at 17.7.

DEATH RATE

The crude death rate for Lewes for 1966 was 12.9 per 1,000 population. This figure is slightly higher than the rate for 1965 of 12.8. Applying the area comparability factor of 0.93, the adjusted rate becomes 11.9 which is more than the rate for England and Wales at 11.7.

The average age at death was 68.8 years.

The highest age at death was 95 years.

The lowest age at death was 3 hours.

SPECIFIC CAUSES OF DEATH

		<u>% of deaths</u>
(1) Diseases of the heart and circulatory system	62	34.3
(Coronary disease accounted for)	35	19.3
(2) Cancer (all sites)	47	26.0
(cancer of the lung or bronchus accounted for)	13	7.2

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

It was not necessary to take action under Section 47 of the above Act which gives the Council power to remove to suitable premises persons who are not able to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons adequate care and attention.

Cause of Death	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks & Under 1 Year	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & Over
Syphilitic Disease	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach	M F	2 3	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- 1	1 -	1 1
Malignant Neoplasm Lung Bronchus	M F	10 3	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 1	2 -	5 2	2 -
Malignant Neoplasm Breast	M F	- 5	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- 2	- 1	- -	- 1
Malignant Neoplasm Uterus	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M F	12 9	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- 3	1 -	1 3	10 2
Leukaemia Aleukaemia	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -
Diabetes	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M F	11 9	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	1 1	5 3	5 4
Coronary Disease Angina	M F	24 11	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2 -	3 -	3 -	8 4	8 7
Hypertension with Heart Disease	M F	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1
Other Heart Disease	M F	5 15	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 2	- 1	- -	5 12
Other Circulatory Disease	M F	2 4	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2 4
Pneumonia	M F	6 4	- -	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	1 -	4 3
Bronchitis	M F	3 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2 -	1 -
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M F	3 -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	1 -
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -
Gastritis Enteritis and Diarrhoea	M F	2 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	1 -
Congenital Malformations	M F	1 -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -

Cause of Death	Sex	Total	Under	4 Weeks										75 &
		All	4	& Under	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	Over	
		Ages	Weeks	1 Year										
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	M	11	3	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2	3	
	F	11	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	7	
Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	
All Other Accidents	M	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Suicide	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	101	4	2	1	1	1	-	2	6	9	29	46	
	F	80	1	1	-	-	-	1	2	10	6	15	44	

SECTION II

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. PUBLIC HEALTH FACILITIES OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

During the period under review the Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Lewes also acted as Medical Officer of Health for the Urban Districts of Newhaven and Seaford and the Rural District of Chailey. The East Sussex United Districts (Medical Officer of Health) Joint Committee, by which the Medical Officer of Health for the four districts is appointed, provides an efficient means of administering the Joint Appointment.

One Chief Public Health Inspector and an Assistant Public Health Inspector carried out duties in the Borough during 1966.

2. LABORATORY FACILITIES

These are provided by the Public Health Laboratory at the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton.

3. AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The provision of the ambulance service is the responsibility of the East Sussex County Council, which houses five ambulances and a dual purpose sitting vehicle at the St. John Headquarters, Timberyard Lane, Lewes. During 1966 these vehicles were available for the conveyance of both infectious and non-infectious cases, and arrangements are in being for the disinfection of ambulances, bedding, clothing, etc., after use for the transport of an infectious case. The vehicles are staffed by members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, and are serviced, as necessary, by the drivers, or by a commercial garage. If a further call is received while all vehicles are out on duty, arrangements are in being for the call to be dealt with by other depots in the area. This procedure is now simplified owing to the fact that the ambulance service is under radio control.

4. NURSING IN THE HOME

As in previous years the East Sussex County Council, as empowered by Section 25 of the National Health Act, 1946, has arranged for this service to be provided by the East Sussex County Nursing Association through the Lewes and District Nursing Association.

5. CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

Description and Situation	Day and Time of Attendance	By whom provided
Infant Welfare Centre, Castlegate House, LEWES.	Every Tuesday afternoon 2 - 4 p.m.	East Sussex County Council
Toddlers Clinic, Castlegate House, LEWES.	2nd and 4th Tuesday afternoon in every month	East Sussex County Council

Description and Situation	Day and Time of Attendance	By whom provided
Speech Therapy Clinic, Castlegate House, LEWES.	Every Monday and Friday afternoon	East Sussex County Council
Child Guidance Clinic, Castlegate House, LEWES.	Every Wednesday by appointment	East Sussex County Council
Cytology Clinic, Castlegate House, LEWES.	1st and 3rd Thursday in the month 10 a.m.-12.30 p.m. and 1st 2nd and 3rd Wednesday at 6 p.m.	East Sussex County Council
Chest Clinic, Victoria Hospital, LEWES.	By appointment Monday 2 p.m. Wednesday 9.15 a.m. Friday 11.15 a.m. once a month	Regional Hospital Board
Dental Clinic, Castlegate House, LEWES.	Monday to Friday by appointment	East Sussex County Council
Nervous Disorders Clinic, Victoria Hospital, LEWES.	Tuesday from 2.15 p.m. onwards	Regional Hospital Board

6. HOSPITAL FACILITIES

Hospital facilities are available in the area at the Lewes Victoria Hospital and are administered by the Brighton and Lewes Hospital Management Committee.

7. PROVISION FOR DEALING WITH THE NEEDS OF THE MENTALLY DISORDERED

Under the Mental Health Act, 1959, the County Council administers the Mental Health Services in respect of patients outside Institutions. All institutional care is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board.

SECTION III

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES AND SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

1. WATER SUPPLY

With the exception of a few private wells, which are used for trade purposes, the water supply is derived from the Brighton Corporation Waterworks, which are situated at the south-west end of the Borough.

The water is pumped from the well into four covered distributing reservoirs, namely Jubilee Park, Race Hill (2), and Western Road.

The supply is constant, of good quality, and sufficient for the needs of the community.

Brighton Corporation Water Department have taken a daily sample from consumer's premises for bacteriological examination, a fortnightly sample from the reservoirs for bacteriological and abbreviated chemical examination, and from the Southover Pumping Station weekly samples of the water before treatment, for bacteriological and abbreviated chemical examination, and after treatment for bacteriological examination, and monthly for complete chemical and mineralogy examination.

The following is a copy of the results of analysis of a sample of water taken at the Southover Pumping Station:-

Brighton Corporation Waterworks. Sample Ref. No. 8233.
Results of Examination of Sample of Water from Southover
Pumping Station. Chlorinated Water.
Taken on 15th November, 1966.

Physical Characters

Colour (Hazen)	3
Turbidity	Clear
Taste	Normal
Odour	Nil

Chemical Analysis (Expressed in mgm. per Litre)

pH.	7.4
Alkalinity (CaCO ₃)	190.0
Chlorides (Cl)	24.1
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (N)	Nil
Albuminoid Nitrogen (N)	0.022
Nitrite Nitrogen (N)	Nil
Oxidised Nitrogen (N)	5.0
Oxygen Absorbed (3 hr. at 27°C.)	0.12
Temporary Hardness (CaCO ₃)	190.0
Permanent Hardness (")	31.0
Total Hardness (")	221.0
Total Solids (dried at 180°C.)	311.0
Free CO ₂	
Silica (SiO ₂)	8.0
Calcium (Ca)	84.0
Magnesium (Mg)	3.4
Sodium (Na)	13.6
Potassium (K)	1.1
Sulphate (SO ₄)	11.6
Total Iron (Fe)	
Manganese (Mn)	
Conductivity (u mho)	450
Synthetic Detergent	Nil
Fluoride (F)	0.1
Gross Beta Activity	0.75 p.c./litre

Remarks

Probable Combination of Mineral Constituents

CaCO ₃	190.0	mgm/lt.	
CaSO ₄	16.4	"	"
CaCl ₂	8.9	"	"
MgCl ₂	13.3	"	"
NaCl	14.0	"	"
NaNO ₃	30.3	"	"
SiO ₂	<u>8.0</u>	"	"
Total	<u>290.9</u>	"	"

No form of contamination of the supply has occurred during the year, and as the water is not liable to plumbo-solvent action, it has not been necessary to take any action against this.

All dwelling houses in the Borough have a direct piped supply from the public water main, with the exception of 22 houses on the Cuilfail Estate which receive their piped supply via two private reservoirs which are supplied from the public water main.

2. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Water carriage system; 30 houses only being connected to cess-pools or septic tank systems.

The sewerage system provides for the converging of all sewers into the Sewage Disposal Works at Southeram, where the effluent, after the passing of the sewage through a detritus chamber, screens, and sedimentation tanks, is stored in reservoirs until it is discharged into the River Ouse at suitable states of the tide. These arrangements are reasonably adequate at the present time.

3. REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The collection of house refuse is carried out once weekly over the whole district, and trade refuse oftener where requested.

Disposal was effected by controlled tipping on low-lying land at Malling Brooks.

4. SANITARY INSPECTION

Houses and Premises inspected	338
Complaints attended to	41
Visits to Milkshops and Dairies	13
Visits to Food Shops	93
Visits to Bakeries	7
Visits to Cafes, Restaurants and Hotels	38
Visits to Hairdressers Establishments	7
Visits to Cinema	2
Visits to Swimming Baths	5
Visits to Pet Shops	3
Visits to Knackers Yard	8
Visits re Sickness	15
Inspections of Verminous houses	5
Visits under the Petroleum Act	20
Visits under the Rent Act	7
Visits under the Factories Act	44
Visits under the Shops Act	2
Visits under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act . . .	125

Visits under the Clean Air Act	5
Visits under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act	3
Visits re Drainage	68
Visits for sundry purposes	333
Visits for re-inspections.	98

5. HOUSING

- (a) New Dwellings
90 new dwellings were provided during the year, 72 by private enterprise and 18 by the Local Authority.
- (b) Slum Clearance
Undertakings were accepted on 13 unfit houses that they would not be used for habitation until made fit.
- (c) Houses made fit
5 Houses were made fit after formal action by the Council, and 37 after informal action.
- (d) Improvement Grants
Applications for 11 Discretionary and 13 Standard Grants for the improvement of dwellings were approved during the year.
- (e) Certificates of Disrepair
No applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair.
- (f) Common Lodging Houses
There are no registered common lodging houses within the Borough.

6. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

- (a) Milk Supply
The whole of the milk retailed within the Borough is of a designated supply, by far the greater being "Pasteurised", with only small quantities of "Untreated" or "Sterilised" being sold.

The number of retail purveyors is 20, and there is one registered cowkeeper.

Five samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination. Brucella abortus type 1 was isolated in one sample, but subsequent samples from the same producer proved satisfactory.
- (b) Ice-Cream
There are 46 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream, and none for manufacture.
- (c) Meat
There are no licensed slaughterhouses within the Borough; the greater part of the home-killed meat retailed is slaughtered at Brighton Abattoir.
- (d) Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations
There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the Borough.

(e) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations

The food premises subject to the Regulations, grouped in categories of trade are:-

Bakers and Confectioners Shops:-	9	Regulations 16 and 19 apply and complied with
Bakeries:	- 1	Regulations 16 and 18 apply and complied with
Butcher Shops:	- 11	Regulations 16 and 19 apply and complied with
Canteens:	- 13	Regulations 16 and 19 apply and complied with
Cooked Meat Shops:	- 2	Regulations 16 and 19 apply and complied with
Cooked Meat Factory:	- 1	Regulations 16 and 19 apply and complied with
Confectioners Shops:	- 18	All comply with Regulation 16 Regulation 19 applies and complied with in 13 premises
Dairies:	- 6	Regulations 16 and 19 apply and complied with
Fishmongers Shops:	- 3	Regulations 16 and 19 apply and complied with
Fried Fish Shops:	- 4	Regulations 16 and 19 apply and complied with
Greengrocers Shops:	- 15	Regulations 16 and 19 apply and complied with
Restaurants and Cafes:	- 19	Regulations 16 and 19 apply and complied with
Hotels:	- 3	Regulations 16 and 19 apply and complied with
Public Houses:	- 26	Regulations 16 and 19 apply and complied with
Sweet Factory:	- 1	Regulations 16 and 19 apply and complied with

Premises registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955 are:-

Sale of Ice-Cream	- 46
Manufacture of Sausages etc.	- 14
Fish Frying	- 4

Inspections of the various food premises revealed 18 premises in which there were contraventions of the Regulations. All were remedied following informal notices.

(f) Poultry Inspection

There are no poultry processing premises within the Borough.

(g) Unsound Food

The following summary shows food which was found on examination to be unfit for human consumption, and was voluntarily surrendered by the owners for destruction:-

Meat	-	101 lbs.
Potatoes	-	55 "
Margarine	-	21 "
Canned Ham	-	16 "
" Chopped Pork		12 "
" Jellied Veal		8 "
Assorted Frozen Foods		73 Packets

Disposal of the unsound food was:-

Meat	- to Fat and Bone Merchants
Fish	- to Pig Keepers for swill
Canned goods	- burial at the Refuse Tip

7. RODENT CONTROL

In addition to dealing with individual complaints of rat or mice infested premises, regular inspections and surveys were made of premises and land which had previous record of infestations.

The Council's refuse tip was kept under close supervision and treatments were carried out as and when found necessary.

The number of visits made to premises under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, were 863, and the number of infestations found and cleared were 86.

8. OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT

This Act which requires the registration of all offices and shop premises with the Local Authority, deals with the health, safety and welfare of employees in such premises.

The number of premises registered by the end of the year was 267; 45 of the premises received a general inspection, and a total of 125 visits were made to them.

33 premises were found to contravene the provision of the Act in a total of 159 requirements.

2 notifications of accidents were received and investigated.

9. PETROLEUM ACT

36 licences were issued for the storage of petroleum spirit. The total quantity permitted to be kept under licence was 61,505 gallons. Fees received in respect of licences amounted to £29 -10s.

10. FACTORIES ACT

There are 19 factories in the Borough in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 of the Act are to be enforced by the Council. During the year 10 inspections were carried out in this class of factory.

Under Section 7 of the Act there are 58 factories on the register; 28 inspections were carried out at these premises, and 4 defects concerning unsuitable or defective sanitary conveniences, and one concerning floor drainage were remedied.

6 visits were also made to other premises to which the Act applied.

5 persons are employed as outworkers making or repairing wearing apparel; no instance of work in unwholesome premises was found.

PART I OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector)

PREMISES	NUMBER ON REGISTER	NUMBER OF		
		INSPECTIONS	WRITTEN NOTICES	OCCUPIERS PROSECUTED
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	19	10	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	58	28	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (excluding out-workers' Premises)	10	6	-	-
TOTALS:	87	44	-	-

2. CASES in which DEFECTS were found:

PARTICULARS	NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH defects were found	
	FOUND	REMEDIED:
Want of cleanliness	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	1	1
Sanitary Conveniences		
(a) Insufficient	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1
Other offences against Act (Not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-
TOTALS	6	6

PART VIII of the ACT

OUTWORK
(SECTIONS 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	
Wearing) Making Apparel) etc.,) Cleaning) and) Washing	5	-	-	NIL

11. SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

There are 16 dealers registered under the Act, 12 of whom have stores within the Borough.

12. SWIMMING BATHS

The Council's open air swimming bath at The Pells is 150 feet by 75feet, with depths ranging from 2 feet to 5 feet and a capacity of 200,000 gallons.

The bath is emptied, cleansed, and refilled, as and when found necessary, usually at 2 monthly intervals, and in addition approximately one-seventh of the volume of water is changed daily by pumping from the borehole.

The continuous circulation and chlorination plant with an output of 36,000 gallons per hour, maintained the water in a very satisfactory bacteriological condition.

SECTION IV

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

A total of 173 cases of infectious disease were notified in Lewes in 1966. The details are as follows:-

DISEASE	NUMBER OF CASES	CASES ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL	DEATHS
Measles	166	-	-
Pneumonia	4	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	1	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-
TOTAL	173	-	-

None of these cases call for any special comment.

The following figures relating to Vaccination and Immunisation are supplied by the East Sussex County Council.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

	Children born in years:-						TOTAL
	1966	1965	1964	1963	1959 1962	others under 16	
A. NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO COMPLETED A FULL COURSE OF PRIMARY IMMUNISATION IN THE AUTHORITY'S AREA DURING 1966	134	143	4	4	6	9	300
B. NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO RECEIVED A SECONDARY (REINFORCING) INJECTION DURING 1966	-	85	118	15	261	130	609

Since immunisation was first introduced there has been a dramatic fall in the number of cases of diphtheria and also in the number of deaths from diphtheria. In 1966 there were three deaths from diphtheria and twenty-four cases compared with no deaths and thirty-five cases in 1965. To prevent this disease from spreading once again it is vital to maintain a high state of immunity in the community. I cannot urge parents too strongly to ensure that their children are protected against this disease since almost all the cases and deaths occur amongst non-immunised children. It has become all too common to regard diphtheria as a disease which no longer occurs and to think that there is no need to have children immunised. This is a very dangerous practice and every child should be immunised during infancy and again at the start of school life.

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

	YEAR OF BIRTH						TOTAL
	1966	1965	1964	1963	1959 1962	others under 16	
NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO HAVE COMPLETED A PRIMARY COURSE (normally three injections) OF PERTUSSIS VACCINE (singly or in combination) IN THE AUTHORITY'S AREA DURING THE YEAR 1966	134	141	4	4	-	1	284

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

The following persons were vaccinated or revaccinated against smallpox in 1966.

AGE AT DATE OF VACCINATION	0 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9 - 12 months	1 year	2 - 4 years	5 -15 years	TOTAL
NUMBER VACCINATED	1	4	1	3	78	117	56	260
NUMBER REVACCINATED	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2

During and since the recent outbreaks of smallpox a lot of confusion has been caused to the general population by the arguments for and against smallpox vaccination. The Ministry of Health have now issued a Memorandum on Vaccination against Smallpox. The salient features are as follows:-

A. Routine Primary Vaccination in Early Childhood

(1) Optimum Age - Routine primary vaccination is not now recommended in the first few weeks of life but should be done before the age of 2 years, preferably during the second year.

(2) Contra-indications -

- (a) exposure to infectious disease
- (b) septic skin conditions
- (c) infantile eczema or any other allergic condition - these are absolute contra-indications to routine primary vaccination
- (d) hypogammaglobulinaemia
- (e) cortico-steroid treatment
- (f) failure to thrive

B. Routine Primary Vaccination at Later Ages

(1) Although at any age the risk of serious complications following vaccination is much smaller than the risk of death run by those exposed to smallpox while unvaccinated, primary vaccination is not advised as a routine after early childhood. But, if not performed in early childhood, primary vaccination at a later age may eventually become necessary e.g. when serving with the armed forces, as a condition of employment and before undertaking foreign travel.

(2) Contra-indications.. Consideration must be given to -

- (a) septic skin conditions
- (b) a history of or the presence of eczema
- (c) hypogammaglobulinaemia
- (d) cortico-steroid treatment. It is not considered wise to vaccinate routinely patients who are receiving systemic cortico-steroid treatment
- (e) early pregnancy.. On general principles it is desirable to avoid the use of live vaccine during the first trimester of pregnancy.

C. Vaccination in the presence of Smallpox

The object is, by primary vaccination or revaccination as soon after exposure or, at most, within three days, to enable the individual to gain immunity to smallpox within the normal incubation period of that disease. In the presence of suspected smallpox there are no absolute contra-indications to the immediate vaccination or re-vaccination of all close contacts.

SECTION V

TUBERCULOSIS

In 1966, two new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified amongst Lewes residents. No cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified. In addition there were five inward transfers of pulmonary tuberculosis. There were no deaths from tuberculosis during the year.

	NEW CASES AND MORTALITY 1966							
	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	1 t.i.	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	1 t.i.	1 new 1 t.i.	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54	-	2 t.i.	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over 65	1 new	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-

t.i. = Transfer inwards

The incidence of 7 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified in 1966 is 0.5 per 1,000 population. If the inward transfers are excluded, the two new cases arising in Lewes give an incidence rate of 0.14 per 1,000 population.

NUMBER OF CASES ON THE REGISTER AT 31st, DECEMBER, 1966

Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		TOTAL
Males	Females	Males	Females	
53	54	11	4	122
Whereas at 31st December, 1965, the number of cases on the register was				
58	50	11	5	124

